

In the Office Action of Paper No. 12, Claims 1, 3-7, 9, 11, 12, 14, 16-18, 23 and 24 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable in view of the U.S. Patent of Popat, et al. No. 5,662,976 in combination with the U.S. Patent of Ashby et al. No. 4,876,131. Of the above-rejected claims, Claims 11 and 24 had previously been cancelled leaving only Claims 1 and 12 as the independent claims among the rejected claims. Claims 1 and 12 have been amended herein to recite additional structural features of the invention that are not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art relied on in rejecting the claims. It is therefore respectfully that amended Claims 1 and 12 are allowable over the prior art.

The form with the integrated label or fold-over card of the invention has a much more simplified construction than the form of the Popat reference. The simplified construction of the form of the invention is not taught or made obvious by the construction of the Popat form. Claims 1 and 12 have been amended herein to better define the construction of the form of the invention.

The form of the invention has a more simplified construction in that the peripheral edge of the patch layer only extends beyond the peripheral edge of the die cut and does not extend to the peripheral edge of the form layer as does the form of the prior art. The construction of the form of the present invention allows less patch material to be used in the construction of the form. Furthermore, the top surface of the form layer is not entirely covered by the patch layer material, enabling printing on the exposed top surface of the form layer. In contrast to the above, the form of Popat employs a patch layer or a laminate sheet 52 that extends completely across the top surface of the backing sheet 60. The form of Popat is specifically designed so that the laminate sheet 52 extends entirely across the top surface of the backing sheet 60 so that there are no apertures or indentations on the top surface of the form that could interfere with feeding the form into a printer or photo copier (see column 6, lines 55-59 and column 7, lines 43-50). Thus, the Popat form is specifically designed so that the peripheral edge of the lamination sheet 52 extends to and corresponds with the peripheral edge of the backing sheet

60. It would not be obvious to modify the Popat form so that its lamination sheet 52 was positioned within the peripheral edge of the backing sheet 60 as set forth in amended Claims 1 and 12 because such a modification would be contrary to the intended purpose of extending the lamination sheet 52 to the peripheral edge of the backing sheet 60 as set forth in the portion of the Popat reference cited above. Because such modification would not be obvious to the ordinary skilled artisan, the subject matter of amended Claims 1 and 12 is allowable over the Popat reference taken alone or when viewed in combination with the teachings of the Ashby reference.

Claims 2 through 10 all depend from Claim 1 and therefore are also allowable over the prior art. Furthermore, Claim 6 sets forth that the patch layer is sized and offset in relation to the die cut so that distances between the peripheral edge of the patch layer and corresponding edges of the form layer portion are not the same. Claim 7 also recites subject matter similar to that of Claim 6. These claims are referring to the structural features of the invention that can best be seen in Figures 4, 5, 9 and 12. This relationship between the peripheral edge of the patch layer and the peripheral edge of the form layer portion is not disclosed or suggested by any of the prior art references. For this additional reason, Claims 6 and 7 are allowable over the prior art.

Claim 8 describes the embodiment of the invention where there are two labels within the form periphery and Claim 9 describes the embodiment having multiple portions of the form layer within the die cuts. The features of Claims 8 and 9, in combination with those of Claim 1 are not disclosed or suggested by the prior art. For this additional reason, Claims 8 and 9 are allowable over the prior art.

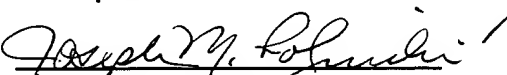
Claim 13 was previously indicated as being allowable and has been amended herein into independent form incorporating all of the subject matter of Claim 12 from which it depended. It is therefore believed that Claim 13 is allowable over the prior art.

Claims 14 through 23 depend from either amended independent Claim 12 or amended independent Claim 13 and therefore are believed to be allowable over the prior art for the reasons set forth above.

Claims 25 through 28 have previously been allowed.

It is respectfully submitted that with the amendments presented herein, the application is in condition for allowance and favorable action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
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CLAIMS AS AMENDED

SUP  
E  
Q1

1. (Twice Amended) A form with an integrated label comprising:

- a form layer having top and bottom surfaces and a peripheral edge;
- at least one die cut through the top and bottom surfaces of the form layer within the peripheral edge of the form layer, defining at least one portion of the form layer within the die cut;
- a patch layer having a peripheral edge inside the form layer peripheral edge and outside the die cut through the form layer and top and bottom surfaces;
- a layer of repositionable, peelable adhesive wherein the bottom surface of the patch layer is adhesively but removably secured to the top surface of the form layer over the entire die cut and the entire form layer portion;
- the patch layer, adhesive layer and form layer portion comprising an integrated label; and
- wherein the adhesive layer has a greater affinity for the bottom surface of the patch layer than the top surface of the form layer such that when the label is removed from the form, the portion of the adhesive layer that is not between the patch layer and the form layer portion is exposed and stays adhered to the bottom surface of the patch layer.

SUP  
E  
P2

12. (Thrice Amended) A form with an integrated fold-over card intermediate comprising:

- a form layer having top and bottom surfaces and a peripheral edge;
- at least one die cut through the top and bottom surfaces of the form layer within the peripheral edge of the form layer defining at least one portion of the form layer within the die cut;
- a patch layer having first and second halves, a peripheral edge that extends around the die cut and is spaced inwardly from the form layer peripheral edge and top and bottom surfaces;

a layer of repositionable, peelable adhesive wherein the bottom surface of the first half of the patch layer is adhesively but removably secured to the top surface of the form layer over the entire die cut and the entire form layer portion;

the bottom surface of the second half of the patch layer being secured to the top surface of the form layer by the adhesive layer over neither the die cut nor the form layer portion;

the patch layer, adhesive layer and form layer portion comprising the fold-over card intermediate;

wherein the adhesive layer has a greater affinity for the bottom surface of the patch layer than the top surface of the form layer such that when the fold-over card intermediate is removed from the form layer, the portion of the adhesive layer that is not between the patch layer and the form layer portion is exposed and stays adhered to the bottom surface of the patch layer;

wherein once removed from the form layer, the fold-over card intermediate can be folded in half, thus securing the first half and second half of the patch layer together by the adhesive layer and enclosing the form layer portion between the folded halves of the patch layer.

13. (Amended) A form with an integrated fold-over card intermediate comprising:  
a form layer having top and bottom surfaces and a periphery;  
at least one die cut through the top and bottom surfaces of the form layer defining at least one portion of the form layer within the die cut;

a patch layer having first and second halves, a periphery and top and bottom surfaces;

a layer of repositionable, peelable adhesive wherein the bottom surface of the first half of the patch layer is adhesively but removably secured to the top surface of the form layer over the entire die cut and the entire form layer portion;

the bottom surface of the second half of the patch layer being secured to the top surface of the form layer by the adhesive layer over neither the die cut nor the form layer portion;

the patch layer, adhesive layer and form layer portion comprising the fold-over card intermediate;

wherein the adhesive layer has a greater affinity for the bottom surface of the patch layer than the top surface of the form layer such that when the fold-over card intermediate is removed from the form layer, the portion of the adhesive layer that is not between the patch layer and the form layer portion is exposed and stays adhered to the bottom surface of the patch layer;

wherein once removed from the form layer, the fold-over card intermediate can be folded in half, thus securing the first half and second half of the patch layer together by the adhesive layer and enclosing the form layer portion between the folded halves of the patch layer; and,

at least one second die cut in the form layer defining at least one second portion of the form layer, the second die cut and second form layer portion disposed beneath the second half of the patch layer, such that the second form layer portion is secured to the bottom surface of the second half of the patch layer by the adhesive layer and becomes part of the fold-over card intermediate and, upon removal of the intermediate from the form layer, the second form layer portion is enclosed along with the first form layer portion when the card intermediate is folded in half.

19. (Amended) A form with an integrated fold-over card intermediate comprising:

a form layer having top and bottom surfaces and a periphery;

at least one die cut through the top and bottom surfaces of the form layer within the periphery of the form layer defining at least one portion of the form layer within the die cut;

a patch layer having first and second halves, a periphery and top and bottom surfaces;

a layer of repositionable, peelable adhesive wherein the bottom surface of the first half of the patch layer is adhesively but removably secured to the top surface of the form layer over the entire die cut and the entire form layer portion;

the bottom surface of the second half of the patch layer being secured to the top surface of the form layer by the adhesive layer over neither the die cut nor the form layer portion;

the patch layer, adhesive layer and form layer portion comprising the fold-over card intermediate;

wherein the adhesive layer has a greater affinity for the bottom surface of the patch layer than the top surface of the form layer such that when the fold-over card intermediate is removed from the form layer, the portion of the adhesive layer that is not between the patch layer and the form layer portion is exposed and stays adhered to the bottom surface of the patch layer;

wherein once removed from the form layer, the fold-over card intermediate can be folded in half, thus securing the first half and second half of the patch layer together by the adhesive layer and enclosing the form layer portion between the folded halves of the patch layer; and,

an area of exposed adhesive attached to the patch layer within the card intermediate defined by a die cut within at least one of the form layer portions, the die cut defining a section of the form layer removable from the card intermediate;

wherein the section of form layer is removable by peeling the section from the adhesive layer thereby creating the exposed area of the adhesive layer; and

wherein the die cut is of a predetermined size and shape sufficient to make the area of exposed adhesive of sufficient size and shape that an article placed in or over the area can be viewed through the area and the patch layer.

23. (Amended) The form with integrated fold-over card intermediate of Claim 12 wherein the form layer contains multiple die cuts therein defining multiple portions of the form layer beneath the halves of the patch layer.